REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-15, 19-22, 24-28 and 30-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102. Claims 3, 10, 16-18, 23 and 29 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The examiner's remarks are considered in substantially the order presented.

Rejection under 35USC§102

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-15, 19-22, 24-28 and 30-32 under 35 USC§102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,363,094 to Staron ("Staron"). With respect to a rejection of a claim under 35 USC§102:

> "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim, but this is not an *ipsissimis verbis* test, i.e., identity of terminology is not required. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Each of the independent claims 1, 14 and 21, as amended, includes a repeater that has a receiver that receives signals that have been attenuated through a transmission medium, amplifies or boosts the received signals and transmits a second signal that is indicative of the first signal. Support for the current amendment is found in paragraphs 0019 and 0021 of the application, as filed.

Staron, the prior art cited by the Examiner, is directed to a passive monitoring of data using seismic sensors along a wellbore. The Staron system includes receiver arrays R_i, R_j, and condition sensors C1 and C2 along a cased

wellbore 3. (see Fig. 2 Col. 7, line 10-15; lines 29-35 and lines 36-38). Each of the receivers in the arrays R_i and R_j is coupled to a module MV. (see Fig. 2.) Each module MV sends signals received from the sensors of R_i and R_j arrays to a surface location via hard wires L1 and L2. (see Fig's. 4-6; Col. 8, line 33, Col. 8 line 39). Staron does not describe, show, or teach a system that includes any repeater that has a receiver for receiving signals that have been attenuated through a transmission medium and a circuit that amplifies signals and transmits such amplified signals indicative of the received signals. In the Staron system, signals are directly received from the seismic sensor by circuits MV, which circuits process and send the processed signals over hard wires to the surface. Staron circuits do not perform any function of a repeater as in the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1, 14 and 21 are not anticipated by Staron under 35 U.S.C. § 102. There is no suggestion in Staron of the above noted features of claims 1, 14 and 21. Accordingly, Applicant submits that these claims also are not obvious in view of Staron. All of the remaining claims depend from these independent claims and are neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Staron for the reasons provided above with respect to claims 1, 14 and 21. For all of the above-noted reasons, Applicant submits that all of the claims, as presented, are in a condition for allowance and request an early Notice of Allowance.
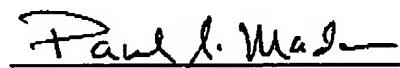
564-24872-US ROA of 05.25.06   11

CONCLUSION

Consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee and credit any overpayment associated with this response to Deposit Account No. **02-0429(564-24872-US).**

Respectfully submitted,

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564-24872-US ROA of 05.25.06   12